

Opportunity to Comment on Cordova Ranger District Guided Helicopter Skiing Project

The Chugach National Forest, Cordova Ranger District, is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the Cordova Ranger District Guided Helicopter Skiing Project. This project proposes to issue special use permits for guided helicopter skiing activities on National Forest System Lands within the Cordova Ranger District. Activities are expected to begin in December 2021 and would be conducted on a portion of the Chugach Mountain Range, the total area approximating 590,000 acres. This action is needed to address increased demand for guided helicopter skiing opportunities and meet Forest Plan goals and desired conditions, including connecting people to the outdoors, providing a range of recreation opportunities, and supporting rural economies. The full draft environmental assessment is available for review at the Cordova Ranger District Office, 612 Second Street, Cordova, AK and on the web at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59615>. Additional information regarding this project can be obtained from Jennifer Mac Donald, Project Leader, at cnfheli@usda.gov or (907) 738-2786.

How to Comment and Timeframe

Specific written comments on the proposed project will be accepted for 30 days following the date of publication of this notice in the *Cordova Times*. This publication date is the exclusive means for calculating the time to comment on this project. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The proposed project is subject to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a designated public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection. Comments must be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and include supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider. Persons submitting comments must provide: name and address; title of the proposed project; specific written comments; and signature or other verification of identity upon request. Other requirements to be eligible to submit an objection are listed at 36 CFR 218.25(a)(3). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted.

Specific written comments for the Responsible Official may be submitted through the project's comment database at: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=59615>

Please submit electronic comments in a format compatible with the current version of Microsoft Word.

Comments may also be submitted via mail, other delivery service, fax, or email to: Steve Namitz, District Ranger by mail at Cordova Ranger District, P.O. Box 280, 612 Second Street, Cordova AK 99574, FAX (907) 424-7214, or email cnfheli@usda.gov. Comments may also be hand-delivered in person at any time during the 30-day comment period using the drop box located at the upper office entrance.

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